

REGIONAL COUNCIL CHARTER - REGION 2

WHEREAS, children with serious emotional disturbances have unique abilities, concerns and diverse needs; and

WHEREAS, serious emotional disturbances interfere with the vital development and maturation of our state's most important resource - its children; and

WHEREAS, the appropriate treatment of children and youth with serious emotional disturbances is cost-effective because it enhances productivity, reduces utilization of more costly and invasive service, lessens social dependence and family disruption; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho desires to establish a comprehensive, community-based system of care emphasizing the natural support that families and peers provide; and

WHEREAS, these families would benefit from individualized services which are acceptable and accountable to them and others in the communities where they live; and

WHEREAS, children and youth with serious emotional disturbances and their families have the right to, and responsibility for, ongoing participation in determining their destiny at the direct service level and at the policy and planning level; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature has set forth its policy for the provision of these services in the Idaho Code ▪ 16-2401, Children's Mental Health Services Act; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Idaho has established the Idaho Council on Children's Mental Health (ICCMH) to provide state level leadership in the development of an integrated system of care for children with mental health needs; and

WHEREAS the establishment of regionally based councils are integral to the effective and efficient development of an integrated system of care for children with mental health needs; and

WHEREAS a group of concerned and like-minded members of communities from throughout Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties have joined together for the purpose of developing integrated systems of care for children with mental health needs and desire consideration as a part of the statewide integrated system of care;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE IDAHO COUNCIL ON CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH, by the authority vested under Executive Order 2001-15, does hereby grant charter to the **Region 2** Council on Children's Mental Health.

The Council's responsibilities shall be:

To oversee the implementation of comprehensive, community-based system of care councils within Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties contained in the Region emphasizing the natural support that families and peers provide, identify challenges and make policy recommendations on the provision of access to treatment, prevention, and rehabilitation services for children with serious emotional disturbances; and

To serve as a vehicle for inter- and intra-council policy and program development; and

To establish local level councils according to resources, population, need and geographic considerations; and

To promote the identified specific key duties, powers, goals, and outcomes to be achieved to the local councils; and

To provide leadership through the facilitation of technical assistance, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the progress of the local councils; and

To evaluate and make recommendations regarding the funding and delivery of children's mental health services region wide; and

To work together in good faith, consistent with statute and administrative rule, to:

- Share commitment to responsibility and values for children and families with multiple needs;
- Share planning, training, development and funding of services and systems of care with clearly defined roles for individual agencies and families;
- Open communication through the sharing of aggregate data, policies and strategic decision-making regarding systems of care; and
- Ensure parents are full partners in the planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the systems of care.

To ensure that children with serious emotional disturbance and their families receive the highest priority access to services and timely collaborative, individualized case planning

To develop, define, and annually review the **Region 2** Council on Children's Mental Health bylaws that must address at a minimum:

COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Council membership shall be composed of representatives from the following:

1. Parent - defined as: The legally responsible party for a minor child eligible for local council case staffing and review. For membership on the **Region 2** Council on Children's Mental Health, agencies (the Department of Health and Welfare, the Department of Juvenile Correction, etc.) with legal custody of such a minor child are excluded in this definition.

2. The Department of Health and Welfare

3. The Department of Juvenile Corrections

4. Local Council Representative(s) (as they are developed and implemented)

The **Region 2** Council on Children's Mental Health may add additional members, in a manner consistent with the bylaws, and should strongly consider (when no conflict of interest or roles allow):

1. Local School District(s) Representative

2. County Probation

3. Judiciary

4. Law Enforcement

5. Elected Official

6. Parent Advocate – defined as:

a) Affiliated- An individual selected by a group organized toward advocacy for the needs, issues, support, and education of families with children mental health issues. The individual must have the authority to commit the group's services and resources.

b) Non-Affiliated – A parent whose child is no longer eligible for local council case staffing and review who advocates for the needs, issues, support, and education of families with children's mental health issues.

7. Provider of children's mental health services

PARENT PARTICIPATION

Parents participating on the Regional Council have the opportunity to be active in policy-making activities. They also provide a unique perspective on issues and concerns of families with children with serious emotional disturbance. The bylaws will describe how parents will be full partners in membership.

COUNCIL GENERAL OPERATIONS

Council bylaws, at a minimum, must address:

- Leadership Positions, Selection Procedures, Terms, and Responsibilities
- Decision Making Protocols
- Official Point-of-Contact to ICCMH
- Record keeping Requirements
- Monitoring Local Councils
- Agreement to work with the ICCMH and Local Councils (as they are established) in the ongoing evaluation of the statewide system of care.

Jack Riggs, M.D.

Lt. Governor

Chair, Idaho Council on Children's Mental Health

Dated this ____ day of May, 2002